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**ARAB LEAGUE. 3 Apr.**—It was learnt that the Foreign Ministers of Iraq, Syria, and the Lebanon had declined to attend a special meeting of the political committee fixed for the next day. Reports were current that the Lebanese Government believed that Egypt wished to involve the other Arab States in a dispute with the western Powers in order to obtain satisfaction of her demand for the evacuation of the Canal Zone.

**10 Apr.**—The Council adjourned its session in Cairo. The assistant Secretary-General said the Anglo-Egyptian problem had not been raised specifically, but all delegations had expressed full support for the Egyptian attitude.

**ARGENTINA. 1 Apr.**—**Antarctica.** The seventh base in the dependencies of the Falkland Isles was inaugurated by the maritime Governor of Tierra del Fuego at Bahia Luna in Livingstone Island in the South Shetlands.

**4 Apr.**—Argentine-Soviet trade talks (*see U.S.S.R.*).

**6 Apr.**—The Foreign Ministry announced the receipt of a protest from the British Government against the opening of the base.

**Government Changes.** The resignation of the Minister of Labour was announced.

**7 Apr.**—The Government announced new measures to curb inflation, including the enforcement of ceiling prices from 10 April on all articles affecting the cost of living. The Ministers of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, and Finance then resigned.

**10 Apr.**—**Food Prices.** The police in Buenos Ayres arrested 350 butchers and grocers and closed thirty shops because of overcharges for meat. One butcher was sentenced to ninety days' gaol and a fine of about £2,500 for ignoring the order for a reduction of retail prices by 15 per cent.

**12 Apr.**—Syndical voting was introduced for the first time in Argentina when one half of the thirty provincial deputies for Presidente Perón province were elected by citizens belonging to a professional association or trade union: the remaining half were elected by the normal method of universal suffrage.

**13 Apr.**—**Profiteering.** It was stated that 103 shops had been closed by the police for overcharging and that in Buenos Aires and its suburbs alone 308 more wholesalers and retailers had been arrested in the past forty-eight hours. The food shortage continued.

**14 Apr.**—Four high officials of the National Meat Board resigned.

The resignation of Senor Espejo, chairman of *La Prensa* was also, announced.

Senor Ortiz, a former Radical deputy, was arrested. It was understood that his arrest was due to a speech he had made in 1951.

**15 Apr.**—Two bombs exploded in the Plaza de Mayo in Buenos Aires while Gen. Perón was addressing a rally called by the Confederation of Labour to demonstrate working-class loyalty to his leadership. It was afterwards announced that six people had been killed and seventy-nine injured, and that several suspects had been arrested.

Gen. Perón declared in his speech that the Government would clean

up the country, suppress corruption and profiteering, and purge the Peronista movement of disaffected elements. After the bomb explosions he urged workers to take the law into their own hands, to provide themselves with baling wire for strangling their enemies, and to hang foreign agents on trees and lamp posts. He said the opposition was afraid to come into the open but preferred to leave bombs and run away. He later moderated his tone and said the Government would not act unjustly although the law would be rigorously applied.

**Riots.** Soon after Gen. Perón's speech, crowds of workers burned down the headquarters of the Radical Party and of the Conservative Party and also set fire to the Jockey Club which was destroyed with its valuable library and pictures. Eye-witnesses said the crowd prevented the firemen from extinguishing the flames and they limited their action to preventing the fires from spreading. No arrests were made during the disorders.

The police closed another sixty-nine shops in Buenos Aires and arrested the proprietors, bringing the total of arrested shopkeepers to 607.

**AUSTRALIA. 8 Apr.—Senate Election.** The Prime Minister, in a nation-wide broadcast, said that the only means of giving Australia a stable government was to give it a majority in the Senate election to be held on 9 May. To cast a Senate vote that would produce a series of political crises and deadlocks would not only be a crime against sensible parliamentary government but would inflict serious material injury on Australia.

**12 Apr.—Gift of wheat to Pakistan** (*see Pakistan*).

**13 Apr.—Japan.** A conference opened in Canberra between Australian and Japanese delegations on the conditions under which the pearl fisheries in the Arafura sea, off the north Australian coast, should be worked.

**AUSTRIA. 1 Apr.—**The People's Party and the Socialists reached agreement on the formation of a Coalition Government under Herr Raab of the People's Party, in place of Dr Figl.

**2 Apr.—**President Körner received the new Coalition Government, which was sworn in.

**15 Apr.—**In a declaration of policy to Parliament, Herr Raab said the Government would redouble its efforts to obtain a new State treaty; open negotiations for the settlement of foreigners' claims for compensation to Nazi victims; and steadily abrogate remaining anti-Nazi laws. He promised legislation to prolong the provisional budget until the end of the year, to reduce personal taxes, and to help agriculture, small industries, and housing. He also appealed to the Occupation Powers to pay the costs of the occupation and to ease their control over Austrian affairs.

**BURMA. 1 Apr.—Development Prospects.** A mission from the International Bank, after an extensive tour of the country, said that it

**Burma** (*continued*)

had rich development potentialities, but the task of realizing them was not easy and the shortage of trained man-power for mining and industry would take years to make up. Burma should concentrate on agricultural production, through an expansion of transport and power facilities and irrigation.

**Rubber.** The Government placed strict control on the export of rubber.

**3 Apr.—Chinese Forces.** The War Ministry announced the expulsion of the 93rd Chinese Nationalist Brigade from its H.Q. at Mong Pyu Awn, 150 miles east of Taunggyi, and the recovery of two other towns in the southern Salween area.

**5 Apr.**—Reports from the frontier area confirmed that the Chinese Nationalists were getting regular supplies of arms and equipment from Siam, by means of a smuggling trade in opium which was sent into Siam in exchange for essential supplies for the Nationalist H.Q. at Monghsat.

**10 Apr.**—Burmese forces reported the clearing of the Kengtung-Tachileik highway after driving the Chinese from Talu, seventy-three miles south of Kengtung town. A force advancing south from Mongpu was reported to have reached Mongmang.

**CANADA. 13 Apr.—International Wheat Agreement.** Mr Howe, Minister of Trade, said in the Commons that while sympathizing with the British effort to bring down the price of wheat by five cents, it was clear that after fifteen weeks of negotiation an agreement was possible on no other basis than that recommended in Washington (*see International Wheat Council*). It was obviously most undesirable to have an international wheat agreement without the United Kingdom. Canada would not like to deal with her best customer on one basis and with other customers on another. The Government would regret to see Anglo-Canadian relations adversely affected because of British non-adherence to the agreement. He hoped that Britain would reconsider her decision.

**14 Apr.—N.A.T.O.: Canadian Aid.** According to a White Paper tabled by the Defence Minister in the Commons, Canada had spent in the past three years a total of \$551·8 m. in providing mutual aid to European members of N.A.T.O. Up to 31 March, Britain had received \$55·9 m. worth of material, including aircraft and engines, radar sets, and ammunition. Up to 28 February 1953, 748 pilots and 894 navigators from European countries had been trained in Canada, and another 1,255 were under training.

The 1953-4 estimates provided for a contribution of \$20·6 m. towards the military costs of N.A.T.O.

**CONFERENCE ON WEST INDIAN FEDERATION. 13 Apr.**—A conference opened in London to consider a federal scheme for the West Indies. Twenty-seven colonial delegates attended, representing twelve West Indian countries.

Welcoming the delegates, Mr Lyttelton, Colonial Secretary, said

that if the conference agreed that federation provided the best and speediest means by which the British West Indies could travel towards economic strength and ultimately responsible self-government the British Government would readily accept that decision and do what it could to effect it successfully. But it would not impose its views. He said the advantages of federation would be chiefly in the economic sphere.

**CUBA. 13 Apr.**—Police fired on a students' demonstration in Havana against Gen. Batista's regime. Two students were wounded by bullets and four others injured by truncheons.

**DENMARK. 12 Apr.**—Hr Kraft, Foreign Minister, speaking in Bornholm, declared that the island would never be used as a base for N.A.T.O. forces, but he repudiated a Russian suggestion that the agreement about Bornholm concluded with Russia after the war could be extended to apply to all Denmark. He said the stationing on Danish soil of a few defensive air forces from other N.A.T.O. countries could not be regarded as a threat against the Soviet Union.

**15 Apr.**—In an election speech in Jutland, Hr Eriksen, Prime Minister, said that very substantial arguments must be advanced if Denmark were to agree to the stationing of foreign troops on her soil. He added: 'Nobody would, of course, be happy to see foreign troops stationed here, but . . . perhaps entirely other possibilities . . . may arise'. He did not indicate what the other possibilities were.

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE** (*see under United Nations*).

**EGYPT. 4 Apr.**—The Foreign Minister received the British Minister, Mr Creswell, and the U.S. Ambassador, Mr Caffery, for separate conversations regarding the Sudan and other questions.

Major Salah Salem, adviser to Gen. Nagib, said in Cairo that 'we are prepared to maintain the British installations in the Canal Zone in the best possible way after they leave. We are more anxious than the British to defend our country. If we fail to do so then we shall ask for assistance from all other countries on an equal footing'.

**8 Apr.**—Gen. Nagib issued a statement saying that it was well known in Britain that unconditional and complete evacuation of the Canal Zone expressed the unanimous will of the Egyptian people and that absolute independence for Egypt was the primary objective of the army's movement. It was therefore illogical for the British to ask Egypt to renounce her demands. Egypt would fight for them by all means, and he repeated the phrase 'evacuation or death'.

**11 Apr.**—**Great Britain.** Col. Nasser, in a statement to the press, said Egypt was willing to begin discussions at once with Britain 'for a just and practical solution of the Canal Zone question', but it must be recognized in advance 'that we won't discuss a Middle East agreement, and that by a just solution we mean evacuation of the Zone'. He



**Egypt** (*continued*)

declared that every country was entitled to its complete independence, and that if Britain forced them to it, 'we will resist by every means in our power, even if it involves bloodshed'. Although Egypt would not discuss the Middle East defence proposals or anything like them, they did want the Canal base to function efficiently, and were willing to discuss how its efficiency could be preserved as an Egyptian base. He added 'We know that, as we are now, we cannot maintain such an immense base. We know that we will want technicians, and since it is British equipment in the base, we will need British technicians'. If, however, Britain thought that under the guise of technicians she could maintain her occupation it was, of course, useless to discuss the question.

**15 Apr.**—Appointment of British representatives for Anglo-Egyptian discussions (*see Great Britain*).

The Government issued a statement announcing that Gen. Nagib and Mahmud Fawzi, the Foreign Minister, would receive the British Ambassador and Gen. Robertson on 27 April to discuss outstanding questions between the two countries.

**Saudi Arabia.** The Emir Faisal, Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister, discussed with Gen. Nagib and Mahmud Fawzi the results of his talks with President Eisenhower and Mr Dulles in the United States.

**FORMOSA. 12 Apr.**—The Chinese Nationalists claimed to have sunk two Communist gunboats and to have damaged two more in a clash off South China on 6 April.

**FRANCE. 4 Apr.**—**American Aid.** M. Bourges-Maunoury, Minister of Finance, arrived back from the U.S.A. and told the press that agreement had been reached about American off-shore purchases in France to a total of \$225 m. Orders for 90 per cent of this sum had been placed.

**6 Apr.**—**Soviet Policy.** The Prime Minister, M. Mayer, arrived back from the U.S.A. He told the press that he believed Soviet policy was directed against the creation of western Europe. Since the balance of strength was as yet far from reached they must not, he said, abandon the road they had taken—rearmament, the integration of western Germany, and the European army.

**8 Apr.**—M. Mayer told the press that he had confirmed to the Americans that France was strictly committed, for the ratification of the European Defence Community Treaty, to the conditions he had laid down when he assumed office. In particular, ratification remained conditional on a Franco-German agreement for a European statute for the Saar, and the Americans had recognized the 'importance and urgency' of this question.

**10 Apr.**—**Communist Party.** M. Maurice Thorez, secretary-general of the French Communist Party, arrived in Paris from Moscow after two and a half years' absence.

**15 Apr.**—**Indo-China: Invasion of Laos.** The Council of Ministers issued a communiqué associating the Government with the protest of

the Laotian Prime Minister (*see Indo-China*) and recalling the French guarantee given in the agreement of 1949, under which France promised to assist in defending the independence of Laos.

**GERMANY. 1 Apr.—West Germany.** The Chancellor left Bonn for the U.S.A.

**Arrested Nazis.** Dr Naumann and four of his associates were handed over to the federal public prosecutor by the British authorities.

**Cultural Relations with Britain.** The revised programme of the cultural relations division of the British High Commission came into force, providing for the closing of four centres, the continuation of four others on an all-British basis, and the joint running of sixteen others by the British and the Germans.

**Appeal to Constitutional Court.** The Social Democrats withdrew the suit they had filed asking the constitutional court at Karlsruhe to grant an injunction restraining the Federal Government from forwarding the western treaties to the President of the Republic for ratification before the issue of their validity had been decided. (President Heuss had assured the leader of the Party that he would not assent to the treaties until after the court had ruled on their constitutionality).

**Air Safety Talks.** Gen. Chuikov invited the French and U.S. High Commissioners to send representatives to the talks on air safety between British and Soviet military chiefs.

**2 Apr.—Arrested Nazis.** The Federal public prosecutor at Karlsruhe issued warrants for the arrest of Dr Naumann and two of his associates. Two of the five handed over by the British authorities were released.

**4 Apr.—Soviet Policy.** Professor Reuter, Burgomaster of Berlin, arrived back from a visit to America. He told the press that, though he would never trust the Russians, he was convinced that the 'peace feelers' they had been putting out did not merely reflect an overhaul of Communist tactics. They were something more than that. He had complete confidence in the western allies: they would not 'sell out' Berlin. He believed that the Russians now realized that they had failed in their efforts to make eastern Germany a Communist State. The political, moral, and economic situation there was parlous.

**7 Apr.—West Germany.** Dr F. Bornemann, the former Hitler Youth Leader, surrendered to the police at Karlsruhe.

**Air Safety Talks.** Representatives of France and the U.S.A. joined the conference at Karlsruhe.

**U.S.A.** Dr Adenauer arrived in Washington (*see United States*).

**8 Apr.—West Germany.** The town of Kehl was formally handed over to German administration and the Tricolor hauled down by the French. (By the Washington agreement of 8 April 1949 the French Government undertook to hand Kehl back to Germany within four years.)

Dr Adenauer's address to the Washington press (*see United States*).

**Air Safety Talks.** The Russians submitted to the conference at Karlsruhe the following proposals: that one corridor, sixty miles wide,

**Germany** (*continued*)

between Berlin and Hanover, should be substituted for the existing three thirty-mile wide corridors (Berlin-Hanover, Berlin-Hamburg, and Berlin-Frankfurt); that armed allied military aircraft be prohibited from using the corridor; that all aircraft using the corridor fly at an altitude between 1,000 and 4,000 feet instead of the existing maximum of 6,000 feet; and that longer advance warning be given of proposed allied flights.

**9 Apr.**—Joint U.S.-German statement (*see United States*).

**East Germany.** The Government decided that 'all people living in the democratic Republic, or in the democratic sector of Berlin, who work in west Berlin or have their own business there will no longer be supplied with ration cards, either for themselves or for their relatives. Children under fifteen are outside the scope of this measure'. Some 40,000 people were believed to be affected.

**10 Apr.—Communist Espionage Ring.** It was announced in Bonn that a spy ring had been broken up by the arrest the previous day of thirty-five persons engaged in 'the greatest Communist espionage organization to be discovered in western Germany since 1945'. It was directed from Berlin by Soviet officers under cover of an 'institute for economic research'. The secretary-general of the Socialist Unity Party, the Minister for State Security, and the acting east German Foreign Minister were among those involved. (Two further arrests were announced later.)

Dr Adenauer on Communist espionage and on the Saar (*see United States*).

**11 Apr.**—Dr Adenauer on German policy in the event of reunification (*see United States*).

**13 Apr.—Berlin.** President Heuss of the Federal Republic arrived on a week's visit to Berlin.

**15 Apr.—East Germany.** A German was sentenced at Leipzig to death and his brother to life imprisonment for circulating forged ration cards by order of 'imperialist agencies'. Six others received sentences ranging from ten to fifteen years' imprisonment. The State prosecutor said the ration cards were printed in the American zone and sent into east Germany through Berlin.

Communist-controlled newspapers in east Germany published an article by Herr Ulbricht proposing an 'action programme' for the re-establishment of a united Germany. He urged a nation-wide campaign against the Paris and Bonn agreements and a united demand for four-Power talks to solve the German problem.

**GREAT BRITAIN. 1 Apr. Marshal Tito.** Mr Churchill told the House of Commons that the discussions with Marshal Tito had, in the latter's words, 'resulted in the greatest accord on how to preserve peace in Europe'. They had agreed on the continuing necessity to maintain their vigilance, to concert their defence efforts more closely, and to avoid any act savouring of provocation; also that there could be no question of thinking in terms of a localized war in Europe. He and Mr Eden had



sought and obtained information about relations between all the Churches and the State, which were now undergoing earnest review by the Yugoslav Government. It was not going too far to state that the whole visit was an unqualified success.

**Korea.** Mr Churchill said in Parliament that the statement broadcast by the Chinese Premier did not 'so far as we can judge, run counter to the principles on which we have taken our stand on the prisoner-of-war question. Thus it seems to provide a basis on which the armistice negotiations can be usefully resumed'. The formula now proposed appeared not inconsistent with the principles set forth by Mr Eden in the United Nations on 11 November, and 'these developments, if not spoilt, certainly constitute a considerable event. They seem to offer a new hope for a solution of the prisoner-of-war difficulty and for a cessation of the fighting. . . Many difficulties still remain to be resolved. We shall try to overcome them with the same patience and caution, and with the same insistence on basic principles by which we have throughout been guided'.

**U.S.S.R.** Sir Alvary Gascoigne, the Ambassador in Moscow, arrived in London for consultations.

**Royal Tour.** It was officially announced that the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh would visit Aden, Uganda, Malta, and Gibraltar at the end of their Commonwealth tour in 1954.

**Saudi Arabia.** Statement by the Embassy regarding the Buraimi oasis (*see Saudi Arabia*).

**2 Apr.—The Sudan.** Mr Selwyn Lloyd, in a statement in Parliament on his visits to Cairo and Khartoum, said his aim was to remove misunderstandings and difficulties hindering the carrying out of the agreement of 12 February. He had met representatives of the southern Sudan as well as leaders and officials of both Egypt and the Sudan. He made it clear to the Sudanese leaders that Britain intended to honour the agreement in the spirit and in the letter. He had told the northern Sudanese how necessary it was to pay special attention to the problems of the south, and had urged those in the south to take a full part in the elections and the normal working of Parliament within a united Sudan. The work of the civil service had been complicated by a series of mischievous and misinformed attacks which, he was confident, were unfounded, and he had assured the officials that they would have the full support of the British Government. The agreement would break down if there was a flood of propaganda through the Sudan against the Administration, and 'I emphasized this to Gen. Nagib, and he assured me that the Egyptian Government did not desire to interfere with the elections in the Sudan.'

Whatever the Sudanese chose as regards their future, he said, 'our feelings of friendship for the Sudanese people will continue, and I can assure them that, whatever difficulties may arise, her Majesty's Government will carry out their promise that the Sudan shall have self-government and then the opportunity to determine its own future.'

**Saudi Arabia.** Mr Selwyn Lloyd told the House of Commons that the Government had proposed to Saudi Arabia four months ago

**Great Britain** (*continued*)

that the oasis dispute should be settled by impartial arbitration. This had been rejected, but had been renewed nearly three months ago. Meanwhile the Saudi representative who had established himself at Buraimi had continued to exploit his position to tamper with the traditional allegiance of the tribes and further the extension of Saudi influence, and the Saudi Government had made it clear that it intended to press its claim to the territory of the Trucial sheikdoms and the Sultanate of Muscat and Oman. A second Saudi official had also gone there and to other places in central Oman with an armed force. H. M. Government had accordingly informed the Saudi Government that they reserved complete freedom of action in the matter and had renewed the offer of arbitration.

**Korea.** Mr Selwyn Lloyd told the Commons that the Russian Embassy informed him on 18 March that their Government were willing to use their good offices with the North Korean authorities to secure the release of Captain Holt, formerly British Minister in Seoul, eight other civilians, and an Irish missionary. On 28 March the Embassy in Moscow was informed that six Britons were interned and their names were given. Two others had died in 1950. Consultations were now going on regarding the whereabouts of those interned and the means for their repatriation.

**4 Apr.**—Mr Eden broadcast a message on the fourth anniversary of the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty in which he said of the Moscow *détente*, 'We shall meet half-way any genuine attempt to reach a settlement,' adding 'at the same time we must not make the mistake of thinking that we can relax our effort to build an effective defence. Still less must we allow ourselves to be divided from our friends. That would be to lose all that we have gained.'

**5 Apr.**—**Jordan.** King Hussein left London for home.

**Mr Eden.** The Foreign Office announced that Mr Eden was to undergo an operation shortly and had postponed his visits to Italy, Greece, and Turkey.

**7 Apr.**—It was announced from 10 Downing Street that Mr Churchill would take charge of the Foreign Office during Mr Eden's absence.

**8 Apr.**—**Balance of Payments.** A White Paper, *U.K. Balance of Payments, 1949 to 1952* (No. 2) was published. Cmd 8808.

**United States.** British Ambassador's speech in New York (*see United States*).

**Norway.** Mr Selwyn Lloyd, the Minister of State, left London for a visit to Norway as the guest of the Norwegian Government.

**13 Apr.**—British *démarche* re Japanese purchase of Persian oil (*see Japan*).

**14 Apr.**—**Budget.** Mr Butler, Chancellor of the Exchequer, presented to the Commons his budget for 1953-4. It proposed no new taxation and certain tax concessions which he estimated would cost £169 m. in the current year. They included: an all-round reduction of 6d. in income tax; an all-round reduction of 25 per cent in purchase tax; the abolition of excess profits levy with effect from 1 January 1954; initial

allowances for capital expenditure to operate on profits tax as well as income tax, the rates being 20 per cent for plant and machinery, 10 per cent for industrial buildings, and 40 per cent for new mining works; the raising of income limit for age relief from £500 to £600; increase from £50 to £60 in dependent relatives and housekeeper allowance; exemption of cricket and amateur sport from entertainment duty.

Mr Butler estimated total revenue in 1953-4 at £4,538 m.—an increase of £99 m. over the out-turn in 1952-3—and total expenditure at £4,259 m.—an increase of £108 m. over the 1952-3 estimate. After allowing £140 m. for U.S. defence aid, the estimated net figure for defence expenditure was £1,497 m.—an increase of £120 m. This figure did not include expenditure on defence preparations estimated at £139 m. which came under the civil votes.

Reviewing the results of the past year, Mr Butler said the United Kingdom balance of payments on current account changed from a deficit of £398 m. in 1951 to a surplus of £291 m. in 1952 which, when account was taken of £121 m. received from the United States for defence aid, represented an improvement of £572 m. The gold and dollar reserves stood at £774 m. at the end of March—an improvement over the twelve months of £167 m. He expressed great satisfaction with these figures, claiming that confidence in sterling had been achieved by the Government's internal policies, but admitting at the same time that the terms of trade had changed favourably during 1952. Owing to stringent cuts and to reduced costs, imports had cost £569 m. less than in 1951, but invisible earnings had fallen by £85 m. and the volume of exports had fallen. The fall in imports combined with a decline also in home demand, had produced a considerable decline in the total demands on productive capacity. Mr Butler claimed that the menace of inflation over the economy as a whole through excessive demand had thus been lifted and a new flexibility achieved which had showed itself in many ways including better adjustments in man-power.

Giving the out-turn for revenue and expenditure in 1952-3, he said that total revenue amounted to £4,439 m. or £222 m. less than estimated and total expenditure to £4,351 m., an excess of £200 m. over his revised estimate of £4,151 m. After taking account of £85 m. as the sterling counterpart of U.S. defence aid, net defence expenditure had amounted to £1,404 m.—an excess of £27 m. over the estimate. The surplus above the line of £88 m. compared with an estimated surplus of £510 m. Of the short-fall of £422 m. a little under half represented higher expenditure and a little over half a lower yield from taxation.

Mr Butler emphasized that the Budget was an incentive budget and that in regard to exports Britain must be competitive and keep her prices down. The co-operation of both sides of industry was needed to see that higher wages and profit margins did not push up costs and price Britain out of the market.

**Sugar.** Mr Butler announced during his speech that arrangements had been made to buy 1 m. tons of surplus Cuban sugar at an advantageous price, and he said that sugar rationing would soon be ended.

**Israel.** In a Note to Britain the Israeli Government asked to be given

**Great Britain** (*continued*)

the opportunity to consult on any aspects of the Anglo-Egyptian negotiations, due to begin on 27 April, which might affect Israeli interests.

**15 Apr.—Egypt.** It was announced that for discussions on outstanding questions with the Egyptian Government, which were expected to open shortly in Cairo, H.M. Ambassador in Cairo and Gen. Sir Brian Robertson had been appointed as the British representatives. Gen. Robertson would be relieved of his post as Commander-in-Chief, Middle East Land Forces, with effect from 16 April by Gen. Sir Cameron Nicholson.

**International Wheat Agreement.** Major Lloyd George, Minister of Food, stated in the House that the Government had decided not to accede to the new agreement (*see International Wheat Council*). In their view the maximum price of \$1.80 a bushel written into the existing agreement was a fair reflection of the value of wheat in existing conditions in a free market. In a sincere attempt to reach a settlement, the Government had nevertheless been prepared to agree to an increase of 20 cents in the maximum price in spite of the heavy additional dollar expenditure this would have involved, but they felt unable to go further.

**Defence.** In a statement on defence in the House of Lords, Lord Alexander, Defence Minister, said that up to date the N.A.T.O. infrastructure programme was estimated to cost £350 m. of which the British share was about £50 m. Much the greater part of the programme consisted of airfields for which the target was 140: twenty-one of these had been appropriated in December 1952, and of the rest over two-thirds were either complete or at a stage at which they were usable or available in an emergency. Most would be completed during the year. The airfields were to be connected by a jet fuel pipeline system on which preparatory work was beginning. Progress during the year on guided missiles had been satisfactory, and it had been decided that the manning and operation of them, as part of the air defence system, should be the responsibility of the Royal Air Force.

**GREECE. 4 Apr.—Border Clash.** A soldier was killed in an ambush by a Bulgarian patrol in the Anghistrion district, sixty-five yards inside Greek territory. The Bulgarians denied that they were across the frontier.

**9 Apr.—Devaluation.** The Government announced the devaluation of the drachma to half its exchange value *vis-à-vis* foreign currency. The rates fixed were 30,000 drachmae to the U.S. dollar or 84,000 to the £. The decision was taken with the full approval of the International Monetary Fund. Measures for the liberalization of imports and the abolition of special import levies were also announced.

**GUATEMALA. 1 Apr.**—The Government seized the assets of the International Railway of Central America, which was British and American owned, in lieu of a disputed tax claim of \$3½ m.

**INDIA. 13 Apr.—Africa.** Speaking at a public meeting in Delhi, Mr

Nehru, Prime Minister, emphasized the danger of a war of colour in Africa where he said the white settlers were mercilessly suppressing Africans in the whole continent and many people of Indian origin, particularly in South Africa, were suffering the same fate. He declared that the movement for federation in Central Africa was an attempt to give a handful of white settlers complete control over the African people whose position under federation would be worse than colonial status. He also asserted that in East Africa white settlers had let loose a reign of suppression, not only against the Mau-Mau, but against thousands of African people. He thought the East Africans' fight for their land was bound to become a world question, if not immediately, within the next few years.

**INDO-CHINA. 7 Apr.**—Reports reached Hanoi that a Viet-Minh force of about 40,000 men was at Moc Chau, eighty miles west of Hanoi preparing to invade Laos. Their plan of campaign was believed to be an attack along two axes: two divisions from the Red River area west of the delta were converging on Sam Neua, and a third division, which had marched down the coastal road to Vinh, was reported to be moving against Sieng Khong.

**11 Apr.—Invasion of Laos.** The French High Command announced that Viet-Minh forces had crossed the Tonking border into Laos and were advancing in two directions—towards Sam Neua and westwards from the port of Vinh.

**13 Apr.**—It was announced that the French forces had been ordered to evacuate the outpost of Sam Neua and were withdrawing unopposed to defensive positions on the Tran Ninh plateau, about ninety miles to the south.

Two Viet Minh battalions captured the outpost of Tri Yen, near Faifo, sixty miles south-east of Hué, the capital of Annam.

**14 Apr.**—The French garrison troops retreating from Sam Neua had a minor clash with Viet Minh troops.

**15 Apr.—Laos.** The Prime Minister of Laos, M. Souvanna Phouma broadcasting from Vien Tiane, the capital, called on the free world to witness that Laos was the victim of unprovoked aggression by the Viet Minh. He protested against the 'criminal action of a foreign group which thus proves once more that it seeks only to impose its ideology on the world regardless of frontiers and of the right of nations to self-determination'.

French statement (*see France*).

It was stated that the Viet-Minh force involved in the offensive against Laos consisted of at least forty regular battalions as well as many regional battalions and guerilla units including Laotians. Apart from thousands of porters, more than 50,000 troops were estimated to be engaged.

**INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL. 9 Apr.**—The five wheat-exporting countries—United States, Canada, Australia, France, and Uruguay—and forty-one importing countries decided to extend for



**International Wheat Council** (*continued*)

three years the international wheat agreement with a minimum price of \$1.55 a bushel and a maximum price of \$2.05. Britain decided to remain outside the new agreement, saying she could not accept a maximum price of more than \$2 a bushel. The agreement was due to come into force on 1 August subject to ratification by 70 per cent of importing nations and 80 per cent of exporting.

**13 Apr.**—The following countries signed the new agreement in Washington: Belgium, Canada, Ceylon, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, France, west Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Netherlands, Switzerland, United States, Philippines.

Canadian Minister of Trade on British decision (*see Canada*).

**15 Apr.**—British statement (*see Great Britain*).

**ISRAEL. 5 Apr.**—U.S.S.R. The Foreign Ministry issued a statement expressing 'deep satisfaction' with the release of the Jewish doctors in Moscow, and the hope that this redress of an injustice would be followed by a repudiation of the anti-Jewish campaign and the resumption of normal relations with Israel.

**Frontier Incidents.** Two Jews were ambushed and killed four miles inside the Israel frontier by Arabs who were afterwards tracked to the crossing into Jordan. The Foreign Ministry let it be known that the incident could not be attributed to any reason other than deliberate action by organized bands of Arabs to terrorize the settlements near the frontier.

**6 Apr.**—The Foreign Minister in Washington (*see United States*).

**14 Apr.**—Note to Britain on Anglo-Egyptian negotiations (*see Great Britain*).

**ITALY. 4 Apr.**—**Dissolution of Parliament.** Both Houses of Parliament were dissolved, and a General Election fixed for 7 June. (The Senate's term was not due to expire till April 1954.)

**8 Apr.**—**Persian Oil.** The tanker *Alba* arrived at Leghorn with 9,800 tons of Persian crude oil.

**10 Apr.**—The *Miriella* arrived at Venice with 4,900 tons of oil from Abadan.

**JAPAN. 10 Apr.**—**Pakistan.** A trade agreement with Pakistan was signed in Tokio under which Japan agreed to buy during the current financial year goods worth about £32 m., including raw cotton, jute, cotton seeds, and hides and skins. Japan was to supply capital goods and machinery worth about £6 m. on a long-term credit basis, facilitating payment in instalments and without charging interest. Pakistan agreed to import £5.5 m. worth of cotton fabrics, £1 m. worth of rayon and other textiles, and £1.5 m. worth of metals. Pakistan also agreed to throw open general currency area import licences for the first time in Japan.

**13 Apr.**—Japanese-Australian conference on pearl fisheries (*see Australia*).

**Persian Oil.** The British Commercial Minister saw the deputy Foreign Minister and asked that the Government should investigate the circumstances of the reported purchase of Persian oil by the Japanese firm, Idemitsu Kosan (*see Persia, 11 April*).

Pakistan restoration of Japanese property (*see Pakistan*).

**14 Apr.—United States.** The Foreign Ministry delivered a Note to the U.S. Embassy requesting the opening of negotiations for a revision of the U.S.-Japanese administrative agreement on the rights of garrison troops in Japan with a view to bringing these rights into conformity with N.A.T.O. provisions.

The U.S. Export-Import Bank announced the grant of a credit to Japan of \$40 m. to assist in financing Japanese imports of U.S. raw cotton.

**15 Apr.—South Korea.** Negotiations with South Korea for a Japanese peace treaty were formally resumed in Tokio after a lapse of one year.

**JORDAN. 6 Apr.**—King Hussein arrived in Amman from London and received an enthusiastic welcome from the people.

**KENYA. 1 Apr.**—A patrol of the K.A.R. killed twenty-four and captured thirty-six terrorists in a forest north of Uplands near the scene of the massacre of 26 March. One of the dead, a Mau-Mau oath administrator, was dressed as a woman.

**2 Apr.**—Home Guards in the Kiambu area killed twenty-seven terrorists, and in the Uplands area K.A.R. troops killed five believed to have taken part in the massacre of 26 March. Two Kikuyu were sentenced to death for the murder of Commander Meiklejohn in November.

**3 Apr.**—Government intelligence sources received reports indicating that the Mau-Mau were planning a full-scale uprising in the Nairobi area within ten days. At the Kariokor location, Nairobi, some 7,000 Africans were questioned, and 170 Kikuyu were sent back to the Nyeri reserve and 330 to the Embu reserve. Some 300 were held for further questioning.

**4 Apr.**—The Governor received a number of European political leaders who asked that 'a General Templer' should be appointed as supreme anti-Mau-Mau commander, and that a resettlement policy on Malayan lines should be adopted. They complained of 'lack of tempo' and called for quick and drastic action. Murderers should be hanged publicly.

The Police Commissioner in Nairobi issued a warning to the public to take greater safety precautions.

The Kikuyu registration law was extended to Lake Province, completing the control of the border with Tanganyika.

**5 Apr.**—The Governor broadcast a statement in which he said: 'We are committed to a long struggle in which there are many difficulties, far more than appear at first sight. The more wholeheartedly we can co-operate with one another the quicker will victory come. But the hardness of the struggle does dictate that all men and women in Kenya

**Kenya** (*continued*)

are needed for a really united and sustained effort.' He was sure it would be won because of the determination shown by the Europeans in sticking to their farms and the Asians to their shops, and the determination with which the overwhelming majority of Africans roundly rejected the evils of Mau-Mau. The information coming in was now of better quality and greater volume than hitherto and reaching the authorities more quickly. This was essentially a battle for information.

As to their plan of operation, they must first secure the establishment of bases in the tribal reserve and settled area from which to launch offensive actions. Round these bases they could begin to rebuild a safe and peaceful life for all communities. Secondly, they must hunt the mobile gangs relentlessly. Thirdly, they must build up a resistance movement among the Kikuyu, both in the reserve and the settled area, and do everything possible to maintain the improvement in the flow of intelligence. Fourthly, he was determined that everything possible should be done to provide useful constructive work for the displaced Kikuyu, so that they could take a worthy place in the country.

A village in the Kiambu reserve was attacked by twenty-five terrorists who killed most of the family of a headman who was a prominent home guard. The latter, accompanied by police pursued the gang and killed nearly all of them. Government forces killed eleven or more terrorists near Nairobi and elsewhere.

**7 Apr.**—Warned by a priest of an impending attack on his mission station at Kiriku, on the border of the Kiambu and Fort Hall districts, a police patrol broke up a gang of 100 terrorists and killed six of them.

The Government extended the special areas under the emergency powers to include three new districts and the towns in Kiambu and four other districts.

It was announced that on 5 and 6 April in the Nyeri, Kiambu, and Fort Hall districts eighteen more terrorists had been killed.

Security forces killed twenty-one terrorists.

**8 Apr.**—Jomo Kenyatta and five other Kikuyu were sentenced to seven years hard labour for managing, or assisting in the management of, Mau-Mau, and three years for being members of Mau-Mau, the sentences to run concurrently. The magistrate stated in addition that he was recommending to the Governor that restriction orders be made against all six. In delivering sentence the magistrate said that he was sorry to say he did not believe Kenyatta's protestations that he had only pursued constitutional methods in trying to obtain self-government for the African people. 'It is my belief', he said, 'that soon after your long stay in Europe, when you came back to the colony you commenced to organize the Mau-Mau society, the object of which was to drive all Europeans from Kenya, and in doing so, kill them if necessary. I am satisfied that the master mind behind the plan was yourself.' He found that Kenyatta had been present at an oath-taking ceremony and had administered an oath to drive out Europeans and had endeavoured to administer it to a prosecution witness whose evidence he (the

magistrate) unhesitatingly believed, while he disbelieved the evidence of ten defence witnesses, which had been evasive and untruthful.

**10 Apr.**—An official statement announced that the Governor had decided to use methods proved successful in Malaya. For this purpose an emergency committee had been established to enable him to see that decisions on all aspects of the emergency were taken and carried out speedily. It consisted of the Governor, the Chief Secretary, the Members for Finance and Agriculture, the Officer Commanding the East Africa Command, Gen. Sir Alexander Cameron, Mr Blundell, and Gen. W. R. N. Hinde, who had been appointed 'Director of Operations' to carry out the Governor's policy. Gen. Hinde would have authority over all officers of the Government in carrying out this policy and would be solely responsible for the operational control of all the forces of law and order. Measures were also to be taken to co-ordinate all local operations against the terrorists. Once the existing phase of the emergency was past, conversations would be held to consider thoroughly the constitutional future of the country.

Mr Blundell, leader of the European elected members, told a meeting of constituents at Nakuru that the European elected members had agreed that if unofficial European co-operation at all levels was accepted by the Government they in their turn would not expect constitutional changes in portfolios during the emergency and they would support inter-racial discussions as soon as the situation made it advisable.

**11 Apr.**—The Governor, Sir Evelyn Baring, addressing a meeting of the African Civil Servants Association, urged Africans to work with Europeans for a sound relationship based on trust, confidence, and frankness. He said two barriers must be removed—European arrogance and African suspicion.

A Mau-Mau armed gang attacked the Kenya Regiment base camp near Nyeri but it was driven off by troops. Another gang which attacked a police post in the Nyeri district was also driven off without loss.

**13 Apr.**—Terrorists killed four European soldiers of the Kenya Regiment in an ambush in the Fort Hall district.

Two African policemen were shot dead by terrorists in Nairobi and a third was wounded.

**14 Apr.**—The upper part of Mount Kenya was proclaimed a prohibited area.

**15 Apr.**—Gen. Hinde issued an emergency directive to the police, Army, and civil Administration in which he called on all Government departments to give maximum priority to the restoration of law and order and to review their activities in order to make the maximum contribution without penalizing the loyal tribes.

The directive said that long-term planning could not take place till the Royal Commission had reported but in the meantime 'the Government must take independent action if we are to avoid a longer period of emergency than necessary'. It referred to the urgency of the problem of the movement of Kikuyu back to the reserves, the prevention of famine, the need for economy in non-emergency expenditure, and the importance of further speeding up justice. Other essentials laid down in-

**Kenya** (*continued*)

cluded: (1) the speeding up of the collection and dissemination of intelligence about Mau-Mau; (2) closer liaison between provinces and districts; (3) the setting aside of personal and political differences; (4) a review of the police organization; (5) the strengthening of Kikuyu Home Guards; (6) the removal of unreliable Africans from telephone exchanges and the construction of new trunk telephone routes.

Addressing a press conference, Gen. Hinde said they had the necessary tools to do the job and if all pulled together he believed it could be done in a reasonable time. He thought there was too much criticism and too little appreciation of what the Government had done, and he gave a warning that he intended to institute measures to punish evasion by Europeans of the man-power call-up.

**Mr Nehru.** The executive committee of the European Electors Union expressed grave concern regarding recent criticisms of Mr Nehru (*see India*) and urged European electors to tell the Colonial Secretary that his criticisms were based on unreliable information, unwarranted and unfriendly for a Commonwealth member. It added that such criticisms 'tend to subvert the loyalty of Indians in Kenya to the Government of Kenya'. It also protested at encouragement by Indian leaders of the 'Malayan independence movement', which it declared could no longer be tolerated.

**KOREA. 1 Apr.—Truce Talks.** Mr Molotov's statement (*see U.S.S.R.*)

**3 Apr.**—Kim Il Sung's cable to the General Assembly (*see United Nations*).

**4 Apr.**—The Communist spokesman agreed to meet the U.N. officers next day.

**5 Apr.**—A letter from Gen. Clark was handed to a Communist representative at Panmunjom asking that as early as possible the Communists should supply the U.N. liaison group with 'a detailed statement of suggestions on the implementation of the proposal for settling the entire question of repatriating prisoners of war, as set forth in the statement of Foreign Minister Chou En-lai and endorsed by Marshal Kim Il Sung, in order that it may be studied while a reasonable settlement of the repatriation of sick and wounded is being effected'.

**South Korea.** The Mayor of Seoul announced that mass demonstrations would be held next day to protest against any agreement which did not embody all the South Korean requirements, including unification of the country, withdrawal of all Chinese forces, and the disarming of North Korean troops.

**6 Apr.**—A crowd of some 10,000 demonstrated in Seoul, more than half being, apparently, school children.

Superfortresses bombed supply dumps near Pyongyang.

In an action near Panmunjom a Chinese local attack was beaten off with heavy loss.

**7 Apr.**—Communist probing attacks in the west were beaten off, and on the central front South Korean forces twice won and twice lost a



strategic hill. Over north-west Korea several MIG 15 fighters were destroyed or damaged. U.N. fighter-bombers destroyed 124 lorries.

**9 Apr.—Release of Britons.** Pyongyang radio announced that Capt. Holt, the British Minister in Seoul in 1950, and six other Britons had been released and handed over to the Russians at Antung, in Manchuria.

**10 Apr.**—A letter from Gen. Nam Il to the chief U.N. negotiator was published. It acknowledged Gen. Clark's letter of 5 April and stated that 'the Korean and Chinese side makes the following obvious concessions as to the steps, time, and procedure of the repatriation of prisoners': Both parties should undertake to repatriate immediately all those prisoners who insisted upon repatriation and to hand over the rest to a neutral State. The detaining side must ensure that no coercive means whatsoever were employed against all the prisoners in its custody to obstruct their returning home. The Korean and Chinese side did not acknowledge that there were prisoners who were allegedly unwilling to be repatriated. It therefore maintained that those prisoners who were 'filled with apprehension and are afraid to return home as a result of having been subjected to intimidation and oppression should be handed over to a neutral State, and through explanations given by our side, gradually freed from apprehension, thereby attaining a just solution to the question of repatriation'.

**11 Apr.—Exchange of Sick and Wounded Prisoners.** U.N. and Communist representatives signed a formal agreement at Panmunjom for the exchange of sick and wounded prisoners. It was arranged that the exchange would begin on 20 April and that the Communists would return 100 U.N. prisoners a day for six days and the United Nations 500 Communist prisoners a day for twelve days. The Communist total of 605 prisoners to be returned included 450 South Koreans and 20 British. The U.N. total of 5,800 included 5,100 North Koreans and 700 Chinese.

The Communist spokesman, Gen. Lee Sang Cho, urged the immediate resumption of armistice talks.

**12 Apr.**—U.S. statement on Communist pressure on U.N. prisoners (see *United States*).

U.N. aircraft shot down seven, possibly eight, MIG 15s over north-west Korea.

**13 Apr.**—The North Korean ports of Chongjin and Wonsan were shelled by U.S. warships.

**15 Apr.**—South Korean-Japanese peace treaty negotiations (see *Japan*).

**LEBANON. 9 Apr.—Saudi Arabia.** Emir Saud, Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, arrived in Beirut as a guest of the Government, to return the official visit of President Shamoun to Arabia in February.

**NIGERIA. 13 Apr.**—The Sultan of Sokoto, spiritual leader of Muslims throughout west Africa, issued a statement condemning Mau-Mau.

**14 Apr.**—A meeting at Ibadan of members of the western House of

**Nigeria** (*continued*)

Chiefs passed a resolution approving the terms of a motion calling for self-government in 1956. The meeting also expressed confidence in the four Central Ministers from the west who had resigned and decided that their names should be submitted when the Governor asked for nominations to fill the vacancies.

**NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION.** 2 Apr.—The second anniversary of the establishment of Supreme H.Q. Allied Powers in Europe was celebrated in Paris. Gen. Ridgway gave a warning that, 'at the moment the forces at our disposal would prove gravely inadequate if put to the test.'

3 Apr.—Statement by Chief of Staff (*see United States*).

4 Apr.—Marshal Juin, C-in-C. Land Forces in Central Europe, speaking at Constantine, Algeria, stated that the projected contributions of individual countries to N.A.T.O.—objectives which were 'well below the necessary requirements'—were far from being fulfilled. There could be no doubt about the gravity of the effect of this, for the fundamental risk was that of 'a battle inevitably lost, invasion of the homeland, and the adoption of a so-called peripheral strategy'.

6 Apr.—Gen. Ridgway left Paris for a tour of inspection in North Africa.

**NYASALAND.** 12 Apr.—A meeting at Blantyre of chiefs and representatives of the Nyasaland African Congress was addressed by the Rev. Michael Scott and by Paramount Chief Mwase and ended with an appeal to the United Nations against federation signed by the chiefs.

**PAKISTAN.** 7 Apr.—**Kashmir.** Sir Zafrullah Khan, the Foreign Minister, stated that Dr Graham's report to the United Nations was a very disappointing document, and he urged the Security Council to make a definite recommendation to the parties concerned and urge them 'to carry out demilitarization, so that the plebiscite administrator can take up his duties'.

9 Apr.—**Famine Threat.** The Prime Minister told the Karachi press that they must import at least 1,500,000 tons of wheat during the coming wheat year (end April 1953–March 1954) if the food shortage was to be mastered and famine prevented. They had decided to seek aid from the U.S.A. in the form of a loan to pay for 1 m. tons, as they could not afford to purchase more than 500,000 tons. He said that in the Punjab alone the area sown with wheat had shrunk by about 1,500,000 acres since the previous year.

10 Apr.—Pakistan-Japanese trade agreement (*see Japan*).

12 Apr.—**Australian Aid.** It was announced that in response to a request made by the Government on 17 March the Australian Government had agreed to provide £A2 m. worth of Australian wheat as a gift to Pakistan under the Colombo Plan. The money realized from the sale of the wheat would be spent on economic development.

13 Apr.—**Japan.** It was announced that as a token of good will

Pakistan had decided to restore Japanese property confiscated during the war.

**PERSIA. 5 Apr.**—A closed session of the Majlis considered the report of the sub-committee charged by Parliament to reconcile the relations between the Government and the Shah. Mr Makki, who had suggested the formation of the committee, said that the Shah was anxious to remove the tension in his relations with the Government about the scope of his responsibility and his authority over the military and security forces.

**6 Apr.—The Shah.** Dr Musaddiq broadcast a review of the developments in his relations with the Shah during the two years he had been in office, in which he said that approval by the Majlis of the eight-man commission's reports on the limits of the Shah's powers was essential to safeguard the constitutional regime. He accused the Court of interfering in the country's affairs and of plotting against his Government with the help of the Parliamentary Opposition and the press, and blamed the former chief of police, who was nominated by the Shah, as being responsible for the riots of 19 July 1951. He also accused the Army of interfering with the general election, for which reason he had had to suspend polling in the fifty-six constituencies where the ballot had not yet taken place. He made charges against the Queen Mother and other members of the Royal family, and declared that the Shah must reign, and not rule.

**8 Apr.**—The Court Minister, Hussein Ala, in a statement to the press, rebutted Dr Musaddiq's charges against the Shah, declaring that the army was fully loyal to the Government, as was shown by its conduct at Khuzestan when the oil company was dispossessed. Most of the Senators who opposed the Government had not been nominated by the Shah, and, on the contrary, he had frequently recommended Senators to support the Government, as in the vote in July 1952 when Dr Musaddiq resigned. He took up all the other points, and showed that they had no substance in fact.

**11 Apr.—Oil.** The Foreign Minister announced the signing of an agreement with the Japanese Idemitsu Kosan Company for the sale of Persian oil.

**13 Apr.—Oil.** The Japanese tanker *Nissyo Maru* left Abadan for Japan with a cargo of refined oil, and the Italian-owned *Epim* tanker *Pica* left Bandar Mashur for Italy with a cargo of crude oil.

Following an informal meeting of the Majlis, at which several Opposition deputies accused the Government of creating an atmosphere favourable to intimidation of the Majlis and of Opposition members, Mullah Kashani sent a letter to Dr Musaddiq warning him that he would be held responsible for any incident in the Majlis Square endangering the security of Opposition deputies. On receipt of the letter Dr Musaddiq instructed the Chief of Police and the Military Governor to maintain order in the Majlis Square. (The Communists had called a big meeting for the next day in the Majlis Square to demand the quick passage of legislation to reduce the Shah's powers.)

**Persia (continued)**

**14 Apr.**—One Tudeh (Communist) rioter was killed and twenty-six others wounded in clashes with the security forces when Tudeh elements tried to stage their demonstration against the Shah in the Majlis Square. At least sixty arrests were made. A group supporting the Shah helped the security forces to disperse the demonstrators.

**15 Apr.**—Twenty-five deputies, members of the pro-Government National Struggle Party, issued a statement announcing that they would offer their collective resignation from the Majlis if it failed on the morrow to approve the conciliation commission's report on the limiting of the Shah's powers (*see 12 March*). They expressed the view that failure to approve the report would endanger the constitutional regime.

Rioters attacked the U.S. Point Four aid offices and American homes in Shiraz, 400 miles south of Tehran, and burned furniture and other objects.

**RHODESIA, NORTHERN. 1 Apr.**—The call to two days of prayer against federation (1 and 2 April) and to a general strike met with a widespread response in Lusaka, the capital, and in Mufulira, but not in other towns.

**2 Apr.**—Many Africans returned to work during the day. The Commissioner for Labour, in a broadcast, said that 500 out of 550 in the Government-owned cement works would be dismissed for being absent the previous day.

**5 Apr.**—The acting Chief Secretary told the press that disciplinary action would be taken against all pensionable African civil servants paid by the month who were away from work without good reason.

**12 Apr.**—At a mass meeting in Lusaka, Mr Nkumbula, president of the African National Congress of Northern Rhodesia, criticized the African trade union leaders, especially those on the copper belt, for lack of support for the strike call. He also criticized Mr Yamba and Mr Sokota, the two African members of the Legislative Council. He advised Africans who had lost their jobs through absence to return to their villages.

**RHODESIA, SOUTHERN. 10 Apr.**—**Central African Federation.** The referendum on the White Paper proposals for federation resulted in 25,570 votes in favour of federation and 14,779 against. Nearly 83 per cent of the electorate voted.

**RUMANIA. 4 Apr.**—The former King Carol II died at Estoril, Portugal, at the age of fifty-nine.

**Amnesty.** The Presidium of the Grand National Assembly granted an amnesty to prisoners over sixty and women with small children, and ordered the dropping of proceedings in certain cases not yet tried. Reports were current of the release of Anna Pauker soon after Stalin's death.

**SAUDI ARABIA. 1 Apr.**—**Buraimi Oasis.** The Government,

through the Embassy in London, issued a statement explaining that the oasis was occupied in August 1952 by an official and forty men as Saudi Arabian territory. As it was claimed by the Sultan of Muscat and the Sheikh of Abu Dhabi, a standstill agreement was signed by Britain and Arabia on 26 October by which both sides were to do nothing to alter the *status quo* pending discussions, but on nine occasions between 11 November and 9 March political officers, soldiers, or armoured cars had visited the place, while restrictions were placed on trade or traffic with it from towns in the Trucial sheikdoms.

**2 Apr.**—Statement by the British Minister of State (*see Great Britain*).

**SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL. 12 Apr.**—At a meeting in Paris of the General Council, M. Mollet, secretary-general of the French Socialist Party, announced the decision of his party not to vote for ratification of the European Defence Community except on three conditions: an American guarantee, democratic control, and British association.

**13 Apr.**—The General Council adopted unanimously a resolution which: (1) declared that democratic Socialism was the only basis for the assurance of world peace and of full utilization of natural resources for the benefit of the masses; (2) welcomed the *détente* raised by recent Soviet actions and, while mindful of the fundamental difference between the dictatorial system and free regimes, urged the free world not to let pass any opportunity of ending the cold war; (3) stated that a real *détente* would be achieved if the Korean war were ended in conformity with U.N. principles and re-establishment of peace in Asia allowed normal relations to be established with Communist China whose representation at the United Nations could also be settled: other necessities were pacification in the trouble spots of the Middle East, the conclusion of the Austrian treaty, and the unification of Germany on the basis of free elections; (4) urged the establishment of a U.N. fund for the development of the economic resources of undeveloped regions and observed that progress in disarmament would release considerable resources for this purpose.

**SOUTH AFRICA. 15 Apr.—General Election.** Polling took place for a general election. The results were: Nationalist Party 94; United Party 57; Labour Party 4. The three Native seats remained to be fought separately and one other seat remained to be filled after a by-election.

(Figures at the previous election were: Nationalists 85; United Party 64; Labour Party 6; Native Representatives 3).

**SOUTH PACIFIC CONFERENCE. 15 Apr.**—A conference convened under the auspices of the South Pacific Commission (United States, Britain, France, Netherlands, Australia, and New Zealand) opened at Noumea, New Caledonia. Among the islands represented were: Dutch New Guinea, Fiji, Solomons, New Hebrides, Samoa, Tonga, Tahiti, Cook Islands, and the Gilbert and Ellice Islands. European advisers



**South Pacific Conference** (*continued*)

representing the colonial Governments also attended. Subjects on the agenda included: education and health, improvement of diet and general environment, and conservation of natural resources. Resolutions were to be transmitted to the South Pacific Commission.

**SPAIN. 13 Apr.**—The U.S. Export-Import Bank announced the grant of a short-term credit of \$12 m. to help pay for imports of American cotton.

**SUDAN. 2 Apr.**—Mr Selwyn Lloyd's statement in Parliament (*see Great Britain*).

**3 Apr.**—It was announced that the three Sudanese members of the international commission to supervise the parliamentary election were Abdelsalam Abdullah, Under-Secretary for the Interior, Khalafalla Khalid, of the National Unionist Party executive, and Gordon Bulli, from the Southern Sudan.

**9 Apr.**—It was learnt that the Government had issued an order prohibiting all civil servants from being members of a political party or being represented as such. Those already members were required to resign.

**SWEDEN. 9 Apr.**—Soviet-Swedish trade agreement (*see U.S.S.R.*).

**TURKEY. 1 Apr.**—**Government Changes.** The resignation was announced of Mr Tefik Ileri, Minister of Education, and Mr Samet Agaoglu, Minister of Labour.

**8 Apr.**—The Cabinet was completed with the appointment of five new ministers: Ministers of State, to assist the Prime Minister, Mr Fethi Chelikbash and Mr Jelal Yardimji; Minister of Education, Mr Rifki Burchak; Labour, Mr Hayretin Erkmen; and Mr Emin Kalafat, Customs and Monopolies.

**UGANDA. 8 Apr.**—It was learnt that the Legislative Council had passed an ordinance giving the Governor power to issue an order applying the Immigration (Control) Ordinance to any African who was not a member of a tribe belonging to Uganda.

**UNITED NATIONS****Commission on Human Rights**

**8 Apr.**—The Commission, meeting at Geneva, considered a letter from President Eisenhower stating that America would not ratify any covenant which might result from the meeting since she did not think it necessary to sign a covenant which had been discussed and re-discussed for five years. The eyes of the U.S.A. were turned rather towards action programmes which would yield immediate and practical results, and the Government proposed to bring the work of the commission down to earth and to initiate action on the assumption that the covenant was a *fait accompli*.

## Economic Commission for Europe

**13 Apr.**—Discussions on east-west European trade opened in secret in Geneva. Twenty-five European countries were represented, including east Germany.

## General Assembly

**1 Apr.**—**Secretariat.** The Assembly, by 41 votes to 13, with 4 abstentions, adopted a draft, sponsored by Britain, France, and America, reiterating the provisions of the Charter in matters affecting the international character of the Secretariat, and inviting the Secretary-General to report on developments at the next session.

**3 Apr.**—**Korea.** The president of the Assembly received a cable from the Prime Minister of North Korea, Marshal Kim Il Sung, saying that his Government was prepared to 'take steps to reach an agreement to end the war in Korea' in conformity with the offer on prisoner exchange made by the Chinese Communist Prime Minister.

**7 Apr.**—**Secretary-General.** The Assembly, by a secret vote of 57 to 1, with one abstention, elected Mr Hammarskjöld, of Sweden, as Secretary-General.

**8 Apr.**—**Disarmament.** Mr Vyshinsky proposed two amendments to the disarmament proposals adopted by the Political Committee on 21 March, but on the second of them being rejected by 33 votes to 10, with 13 abstentions, the proposals were adopted by 52 votes to 5, with 3 abstentions.

The first amendment, for the deletion of the resolution's commendation of the work done by the Disarmament Commission, was adopted without a vote. The second proposed the deletion of a reaffirmation of the Assembly's original resolution of 11 January 1952, which created the Commission. Mr Vyshinsky said Russia was willing 'to go half-way' to reach agreement, and would not press her own resolution introduced on 19 March.

Sir Gladwyn Jebb objected to the second amendment because it seemed to rescind the resolution already passed by the Assembly and would give an impression that they were no longer agreed with the principles of that resolution. Mr Gross (U.S.A.) said the Soviet amendment would have 'turned the clock back'.

**10 Apr.**—Mr Hammarskjöld took the oath as Secretary-General.

## General Assembly—Political Committee

**7 Apr.**—**Korea.** Greece and Turkey proposed that Soviet germ warfare charges should be withdrawn as a token of the sincerity of Moscow's peace moves, but Mr Zorin (U.S.S.R.) rejected this, declaring however, that so far as his Government was concerned the matter might well be dropped if the United States withdrew its demand for an impartial investigation and agreed to sign the Geneva protocol of 1925 prohibiting the use of bacterial warfare.

**8 Apr.**—The Committee decided by 52 votes to 5 (Soviet States), with three abstentions (Burma, Argentina, Indonesia), to set up a commission to investigate Soviet charges of germ warfare.

**United Nations (continued)**

**9 Apr.—Korea. Polish Proposals.** The Polish Foreign Minister introduced a resolution calling for the cessation of hostilities in Korea, concurrent discussion on the exchange of all prisoners, the withdrawal of all foreign troops within three months, the peaceful unification of Korea under an international commission, a one-third reduction within a year of all armed forces by the great Powers, prohibition of atomic and other mass destruction weapons, ratification of the Geneva protocol of 1925 banning bacterial warfare, a declaration by the Assembly that the North Atlantic Pact was incompatible with membership of the United Nations, and the conclusion of a peace pact between the Big Five.

Mr Vyshinsky, supporting the motion, said about Korea that 'the principle of compulsory and unreserved exchange of all war prisoners' was one which the Soviet Union felt it 'necessary to abide by', and he suggested that it was also the policy of the North Koreans and the Chinese. However, he was in accord with the Chinese proposal that the residue of men who declined to return to their lines should be sent to a neutral State where the position could be explained to them by the interested parties. This, he said, should remove the last obstacle to agreement.

**10 Apr.**—Mr Gross said of the Polish resolution: 'We want acts, not pacts', and he pointed out that the proposals for arms reduction were already before the Disarmament Commission. The North Atlantic Treaty still aimed at preventing a world war, and it was in full accord with U.N. efforts to promote collective security. The U.N. Charter was already a solemn peace pact to which Russia had subscribed, and the need now was for compliance with existing obligations. The Soviet Government had in the past violated them to such an extent that the world had lost confidence in its respect for treaties.

**14 Apr.**—Sir Gladwyn Jebb (U.K.) said he considered that any attempt by the Assembly to discuss the Korean situation in detail could only do harm while negotiations were, as then, in progress.

A resolution, which had the support of the western Powers, was tabled by Brazil. It noted with deep satisfaction that agreement had been reached on an exchange of sick and wounded prisoners, expressed the hope that an early truce would follow the prompt initiation of these arrangements, and moved that the Assembly should be immediately convened on the conclusion of an armistice or if, in the opinion of the majority of members, other developments in Korea should require consideration.

**15 Apr.**—Mr Vyshinsky said the Brazilian draft deserved careful study but he could not agree that the Assembly had no useful function to perform in the existing phase of negotiations, and he suggested that the western attitude was inspired by the hope of a military decision and reduced the United Nations to inaction and impotence. He again fully supported the Polish proposals and said that Russia would never accept the western plan tabled in the Disarmament Commission. His main contention was that by seeking to correct the existing disproportion in

strength it inevitably involved rearmament rather than reduction of forces.

### Secretariat

**1 Apr.**—Mr Hammarskjöld accepted his nomination as Secretary-General. Adoption of diplomatic draft *re* the Secretariat (*see General Assembly*).

**UNITED STATES. 1 Apr.—Korea.** A State Department spokesman denied emphatically that any proposals made by the Communists in Korea represented a new initiative towards peace; all that they were doing was to move towards accepting principles for which the United Nations had been arguing for nearly two years, and it was 'utter nonsense' to say that the Russians had taken the initiative. It was standard procedure for the Communists to bring up the idea of the admission of China and North Korea to the United Nations on all possible occasions, and the State Department believed that 'Mr Molotov made the point in reference to global settlements, not the immediate situation in Korea'.

Gen. Van Fleet retired from the army and testified before a Senate Armed Services sub-committee on the ammunition situation in Korea when he was commanding the 8th Army. He said that supplies were not sufficient even for limited defensive objectives, and that a greater supply would have allowed 'preventive tactics'; 'the United Nations could have seized the initiative from the enemy, kept him down, and kept him from staging raids against us'.

**2 Apr.**—M. Mayer and M. Bidault left New York for home.

President Eisenhower told the press that, in his view, every peace offer made by Russia or China should be taken at its face value until it was proved not to be worthy of being so taken. In any case, the U.S. Government was prepared to meet every honest advance.

**3 Apr.—Moscow Peace Moves.** Gen. Gruenther, Allied Chief of Staff of Forces in Europe, told the press in Washington that the Russian peace moves were 'a major effort to isolate the United States from its allies'. The move might be legitimate, but 'dealing with it will be one of the biggest problems America and her allies will have to face in coming months'. The N.A.T.O. forces were inadequate to deal with a full-scale invasion of Europe, but N.A.T.O. was 'about twice as well-off in ground and air forces as it was two years ago'.

The Secretary of State told the press that the Russian *détente* was 'to a very large extent due to the vigorous position which the Eisenhower Administration has taken'.

**6 Apr.—Israel.** Mr Sharett, the Israel Foreign Minister, arrived in Washington to confer with the Secretary of State.

**Germany.** Dr Adenauer arrived in New York and spoke warmly of American 'help and kindness' to Germany, saying that rarely in history had a victorious people stretched out a helpful hand to the vanquished. This attitude had convinced Germany that force and egotism were not the only motives in the life of nations.

**United States** (*continued*)

**7 Apr.—Korea.** President Eisenhower told the United Defence Fund Incorporated that if peace came to Korea 'our men and those of our allies will have to stay in that region quite a while'. The post-armistice period would be a trying one.

**Reciprocal Trade Agreements.** The President sent a message to Congress recommending the extension for one year of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act, on the ground that this would allow for the temporary continuation of existing trade programmes until a thorough re-examination of economic foreign policy had been made. The building of a productive and strong economic system would require action by other Governments also; U.S. trade policy was only a part, though a vital part, of a larger problem—one that embraced the need to develop, through co-operation among the free countries, a strong, self-supporting economic system. He was confident, he said, that the Governments of other countries were prepared to do their part in working with the U.S.A. towards the common goals.

**Germany.** Dr Adenauer, the West German Chancellor, arrived in Washington and was welcomed by the Secretary of State, who told him that American hopes for the realization of unity and strength in Europe were largely due to his contribution in the movement towards these objectives. He said 'the whole world can be grateful that you and your country have given leadership to Europe at this critical time'.

Dr Adenauer, in reply, pledged the German nation 'to be the loyal and willing partner of the United States, which is leading the world towards peace and freedom', and he added, 'I make this solemn declaration: the German people are on the side of freedom; the German people are on the side of right and justice for all nations'. Dr Adenauer later called on President Eisenhower, and offered to send a fully equipped field hospital to Korea. The President accepted it 'with deep gratitude'.

**8 Apr.—Germany.** Dr Adenauer, addressing the National Press Club, said that so far he could see no convincing evidence of any change from the former course of Soviet foreign policy, but he gave a warning against rejecting everything from Russia from the very beginning. Moves that would be a more convincing proof of a change in Soviet policy than any of the official pronouncements would be permission to hold free elections in all Germany and the release of over 300,000 Germans who were still believed to be held in the U.S.S.R.

European unity was not only necessary because of the danger threatening from the East; it was desirable because it would free new creative forces 'now shackled by our heritage of fear and distrust'. All sections of the German people were agreed that freedom, security, and well-being could be guaranteed to each individual only by the union of the European peoples, and this idea had fired the imagination of German youth. The people as a whole had one overwhelming desire—a desire for peace, and any politician who today called upon them to wage a war of revenge would immediately be repudiated. They knew that in case of war with Russia Germany would be in danger of becoming a theatre of war, and as to the possibility of an arrangement with Russia



it must be realized that Germany had today incomparably fewer Communists than had most of the other European countries.

In reply to questions, the Chancellor said the Saar was not just a Franco-German problem but a problem for the people of the Saar as well: there could be no solution unless they had their say.

It was stated in Washington that in the talks of the previous day Mr Dulles had told Dr Adenauer that his Government was anxious for both France and Germany to push ahead towards a Saar settlement, and did not wish to seem to encourage the Germans to hold back on that issue until after France had ratified the E.D.C. treaty. The two efforts should continue simultaneously. Mr Dulles also made the request that Germany should accept the twelve-division goal set at the Lisbon conference as her contribution to the European army. Dr Adenauer asked that the diplomatic representatives of Germany and the U.S.A. should be raised to the status of Ambassadors.

**British Policy in Asia.** The British Ambassador, addressing the English-speaking Union in New York on the subject of China, said the U.K. and U.S. Governments had been guided throughout by the same basic principles—resistance to aggression, unity of the struggle against Soviet Communism, and the need to gain the confidence of the nations of Asia, and their differences on certain points were essentially secondary. Recognition of the Peking Government did not imply approval; no one supposed that American recognition of the Soviet Government implied any approval of Soviet Communism. The policies of even totalitarian States were subject to sudden changes and it was of advantage to have a permanent contact with them.

As to the apparent willingness to negotiate now being shown by Russia, they must be on their guard and carefully distinguish between a serious intention and a tactical move.

**Korea.** The sub-committee of the Senate armed services committee heard evidence about the supply of ammunition from Mr Lovett, Secretary of Defence in 1950-2. He said there had never been a shortage of funds, but when the war started there was a shortage of many things, especially man-power. The army had used such immense quantities of ammunition—at a rate three to five times that of the world war—that the position had for a time been unsatisfactory.

**9 Apr.—Joint U.S.-German Statement.** A joint communiqué on Dr Adenauer's visit stated that if it was agreed that the Soviet rulers genuinely wanted peace and co-operation among all nations they could give no better proof than by allowing free elections in the Soviet Zone of Germany and by releasing the hundreds of thousands of deported German civilians and prisoners-of-war still in their hands. There could be no lasting solution of the German problem short of reunification of Germany by peaceful means and on a free and democratic basis.

The President and the Chancellor were fully agreed that the free nations of the West must not relax their vigilance or diminish their efforts to increase their unity and common strength, but they must not miss any opportunity to bring about a general relaxation of world tensions. There was unanimity of conviction that all concerned should

**United States** (*continued*)

press forward towards European unity through ratification of the European Defence Community treaty. Once this was done the U.S.A. would supply military equipment for the German contingents. As to the Saar, it was 'agreed that an early agreement should be sought'.

Other points decided were: the U.S.A. promised to examine the status of some 300 Nazi war criminals whom it held as soon as the E.D.C. treaty was ratified. Both Governments emphasized the importance of controlling strategic trade with the Soviet *bloc*. The U.S.A. promised to consider carefully west Germany's appeal for aid in caring for the thousands of refugees pouring into western Germany. Both countries agreed that moral and material support was needed to keep Berlin strong as a matter of primary importance. They also discussed the expansion of world trade and convertibility of currencies.

**Korea.** Mr Pace, former Secretary of the Army, told the Senate armed services sub-committee that the major reason why ammunition production was not pushed in the first six months of the war was because in Gen. MacArthur's 'considered judgement' the war was expected to be over by December 1950.

**10 Apr.—Germany.** Dr Adenauer said in Washington that the arrests of Communists in west Germany, confirmed his belief that Moscow's peace offers must be treated with vigilant caution. There were over 250 camouflaged groups in the federal Republic trying to serve the aims of the Socialist Unity Party. As to the Saar, he said he was not thinking of a plebiscite as to its future, but that new elections must be held so that a free Diet could decide it.

**11 Apr.—Germany.** Speaking in San Francisco, Dr Adenauer declared that in the event of reunification Germany would not leave the European Defence Community because she would not be strong enough to stand alone.

**12 Apr.—Korea.** The Defence Department issued a statement saying that United Nations prisoners in Korea had been under 'relentless Communist pressure to change their political sympathies, and some of them appeared to have succumbed'. It added that they could not be condemned for co-operating with the Communists, at least outwardly, 'for the alternative may appear to be torture or death—or both'. The statement described the Communists' methods of applying pressure, emphasizing the 'highly controlled' and isolated environment of the prisoners.

**Foreign Policy.** The publication of testimony given by Mr Dulles on 18 March before the House Appropriations Committee revealed that he had advocated increased aid to the French in Indo-China and increased military aid to Chinese Nationalist forces in Formosa. He had spoken with concern of the situation in the Middle East, saying that 'the drift is dangerously unfavourable to us', and he had expressed readiness to consider military and economic aid for that area but added that the operation of such a programme would be hastened if progress were made in plans for defence of the area and if peace were concluded between the Arab States and Israel.

**14 Apr.—Rubber.** President Eisenhower sent a message to Congress recommending legislation to authorize the sale to private industry of synthetic rubber plants still publicly owned. He said the following three conditions must be observed: the Government must realize full fair value; the public must be assured of the benefits of fair competition; and there must be a guarantee that the plants would be readily available in time of emergency.

Japanese request for revision of U.S.-Japanese administrative agreement (*see Japan*).

**15 Apr.—Chief Joseph Dam, Seattle.** A Defence Department spokesman said that all tenders for a contract for generators and transformers for the dam had been rejected. (A tender by the English Electric Company was nearly a million dollars less than that of the closest American companies, even after payment of more than \$600,000 in duty). It was learned that at two meetings of the Cabinet—on 27 March and 3 April—Gen. Bedell Smith for the State Department and Mr Stassen for the Mutual Security Agency had protested strongly against the decision not to accept the British bid, but they had been opposed by Mr Wilson, Secretary of Defence, and by the President.

**U.S.S.R. 1 Apr.—Korea.** Mr Molotov, in a broadcast statement, pledged the Government's readiness to collaborate fully in the realization of the proposals of the Communists in Korea, by which they had 'again displayed initiative regarding the attainment of an agreement on an armistice and the cessation of the war'. He complained that the absence of Chinese and Korean representation in the United Nations undermined its authority and deprived it of the possibility of promoting peace.

**3 Apr.—The Arrested Doctors.** The Ministry of Internal Affairs announced the release of fifteen doctors under arrest, including the nine charged with causing the death of several Soviet leaders. It stated that the doctors had been arrested 'by the former Ministry of State Security wrongly and without any legal grounds'. It also announced that the award of the Order of Lenin to Dr L. Timashuk, the woman who accused the doctors, had been annulled. Verification had shown that the accusations against them were false and had 'established that the testimony of those arrested, which allegedly confirms the accusations made against them, was received by workers of the investigatory section of the former Ministry of State Security by means of the use of impermissible means of investigation which are strictly forbidden under Soviet law'. Those who had made the false accusations had been arrested.

The Foreign Ministry informed the French Embassy that the fourteen French civilians interned in North Korea had been set free. They included the Consul in Seoul.

**4 Apr.—Argentina.** An Argentine trade mission arrived in Moscow for discussions.

**6 Apr.—Pravda,** in a leading article, accused the former Minister of State Security, Mr S. Ignatyev, of showing 'political blindness and

**U.S.S.R. (continued)**

gullibility', and asked how it could happen that the Ministry, which was 'called upon to stand guard over the interests of the Soviet State, could fabricate a provocative case against its victims, who were honest people, outstanding people of Soviet science?' Answering this, it said 'this happened first of all because the leaders of the former Ministry of State Security were not up to their jobs. They detached themselves from the people and from the party. They forgot they were the servants of the people, in duty bound to stand guard over Soviet legality. . . . The citizens of the great Soviet State can rest assured that their rights, guaranteed by the Constitution, shall be strictly observed and protected by the Soviet Government. Article 127 of the Constitution guarantees Soviet citizens the inviolability of the person. No one can be detained without a court decision or an order of the prosecutor . . . No one will be allowed to violate Soviet laws. Every worker, every collective farmer, every member of the Soviet intelligentsia can work safely and without fear in the knowledge that his civic rights are reliably guarded under Soviet Socialist lawfulness.'

*Pravda* also announced the arrest of a former Vice-Minister of State Security named Riumin, 'a contemptible adventurer'.

**7 Apr.**—Mr Ignatyev was removed from the secretariat of the Communist Party's central committee.

*Pravda* published a leading article condemning racial hatred and national exclusiveness in strong terms.

**9 Apr.—Sweden.** A new Soviet-Swedish trade agreement was signed in Moscow.

**11 Apr.—Great Britain.** The British Ambassador, who had returned on 9 April from a visit to London, was received by Mr Molotov, the Foreign Minister. A British Embassy spokesman said he had been instructed 'to use the present relatively favourable atmosphere' to try to settle a number of matters outstanding between the two Governments.

**YUGOSLAVIA. 7 Apr.—Soviet Policy.** Vice-President Kardelj stated that the reason behind the changes in Soviet policy was that the new regime was forced to look for popularity among the masses. If the latest moves were only manoeuvres they would soon be unmasked; meanwhile nothing should be overlooked which might contribute to the cause of peace.

**11 Apr.**—The death occurred of Dr Boris Kidric, president of the Economic Council.